

**Abstract of the Disclosure**

The present invention relates to a nonwoven web comprised of metal or refractory fibers with poly(phenylene sulfide) as a binder. The nonwoven web is prepared by forming a foam furnish by agitating the fibers in a foamed medium, and passing the foam furnish onto a screen and defoaming the furnish. It is preferred that the poly(phenylene sulfide) binder is added to the foam furnish in the form of fibers. Once the furnish is defoamed to form a nonwoven web, the sheet is heated at a temperature sufficient to melt the poly(phenylene sulfide) binder.